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To: THOMAS DUNN
Location: REM-8B19
Art Unit: 1700
Monday, March 15, 2010

Case Serial Number: 10/670187

From: KENDRA BANKS
Location: EIC1700
REM-4A28
Phone: (571)272-2516

kendra.banks@uspto.gov

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517873 (09) 6387453 May 14, 2002

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE GRANTED PATENT

6387453

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Link to Claims Section

May 14, 2002

Method for making surfactant-templated thin films

INVENTOR: Brinker, C. Jeffrey - Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States (US) Lu, Yunfeng - San Jose, California, United States (US); Fan, Hongyou - Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States (US)

APPL-NO: 517873 (09)

FILED-DATE: March 2, 2000

GRANTED-DATE: May 14, 2002

CORE TERMS: film, surfactant, thin films, pore, sol, silica, organic, hybrid, solvent, concentration, mesoporous, mesophase, compound, cm², ethanol, ratio, disordered, inorganic, nitrogen, min, surface areas, interstitial, substrate, reactant, dip-coating, molecule, molar, ligand, spin-coating, constant

ENGLISH-ABST:

An evaporation-induced self-assembly method to prepare a porous, surfactant-templated, thin film by mixing a silica sol, a solvent, a surfactant, and an interstitial compound, evaporating a portion of the solvent to form a liquid, crystalline thin film mesophase material, and then removal of the surfactant template. Coating onto a substrate produces a thin film with the interstitial compound either covalently bonded to the internal surfaces of the ordered or disordered mesostructure framework or physically entrapped within the ordered or disordered mesostructured framework. Particles can be formed by aerosol processing or spray drying rather than coating onto a substrate. The selection of the interstitial compound provides a means for developing thin films for applications including membranes, sensors, low dielectric constant films, photonic materials and optical hosts.

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